GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:397
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
ANTI-INDIA PROPAGANDA BY PAK
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan President on the sidelines of the recent UN General Assembly meeting in New York, had engaged in Nuclear Blackmail against India terming it nuclear threat to peace in South Asia;

(b) if so, India`s response thereto; and

(c) the extent to which India was successful in dispelling the misinformation spread by the Pak President and his team?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA)

(a) Yes, Sir. In his address to the UN General Assembly this year, General Pervez Musharraf had made, by now the very familiar reference to South Asia being a nuclear flashpoint.

(b) & (c) Such assertions are predicated on seeing nuclear weapons as instruments of war which India rejects. Our nuclear doctrine is purely defensive and we do not see nuclear weapons as instruments of war. India will not be the first to use nuclear weapons nor will it use them against non-nuclear weapon states. India`s proposals in the UN General Assembly on non-use of nuclear weapons and on controlling the nuclear dangers have received broad-based support.